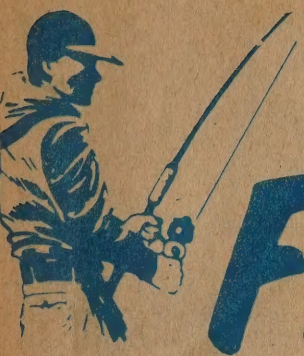

The Long Island FISHERMAN

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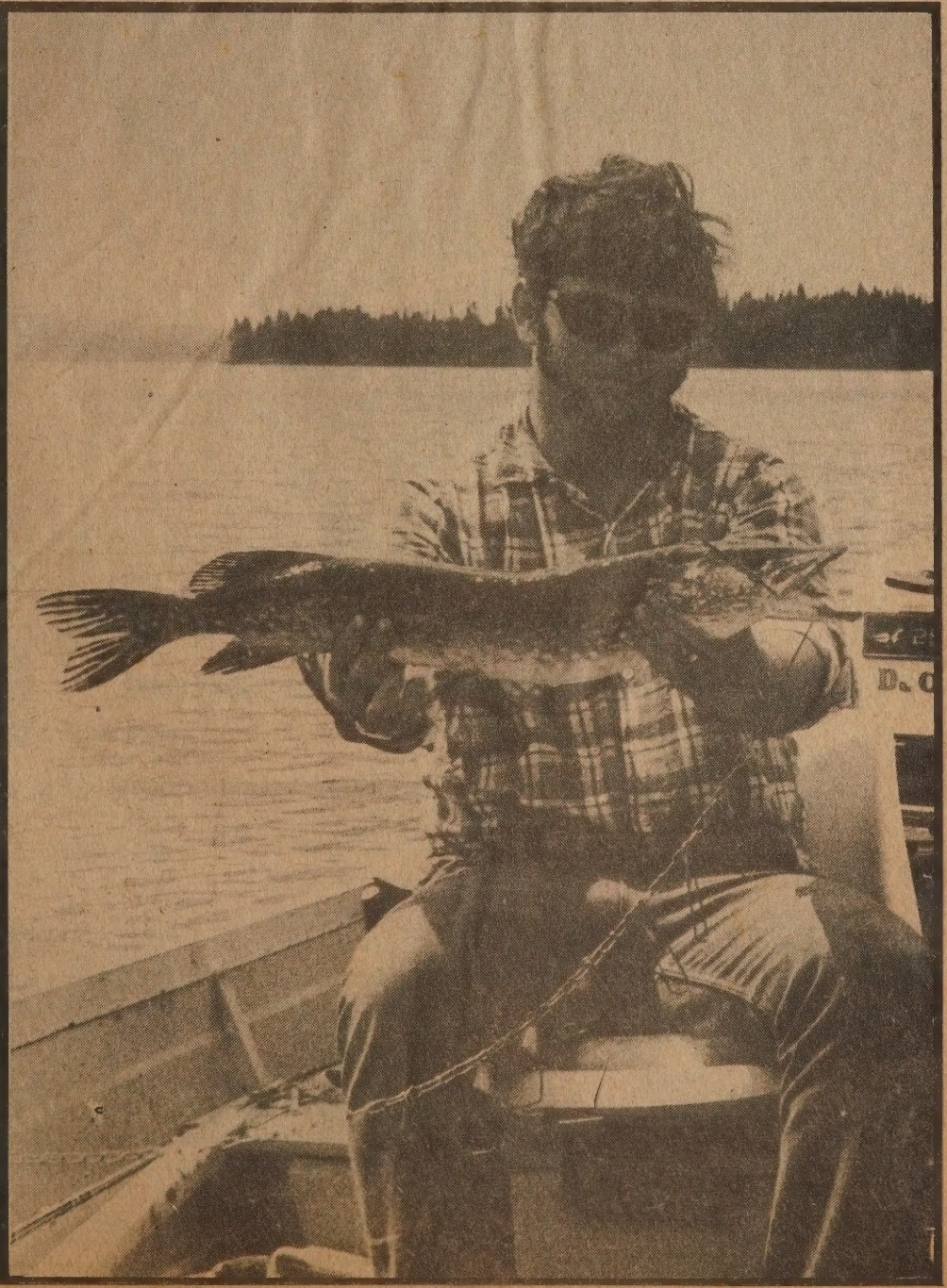

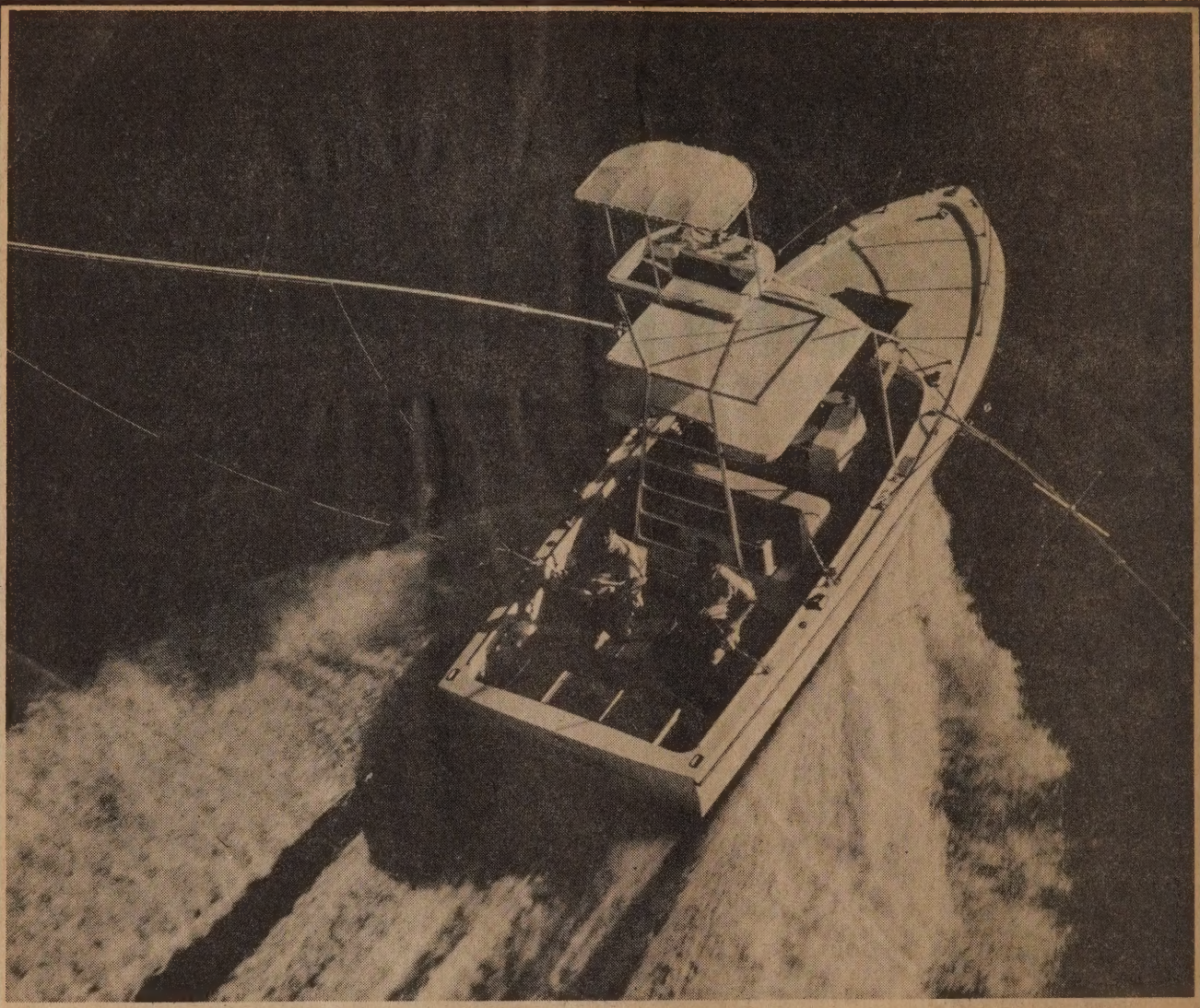

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

THE ONLY WEEKLY GUIDE FOR FISHERMEN IN THE N.Y. AREA

Volume 10, Number 11 March 27th, 1975

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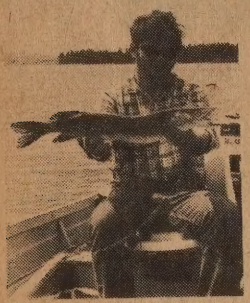

ABOUT THE COVER: Northern pike from the far northern reaches of Quebec. Read "Quebec Parks and the New York Fisherman," on page 12.

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From the Editor's Head

Friday night, March 21, 1975, and 978 sportsmen and sportswomen gathered at the auditorium of the Staten Island 200 to show their interest in, and support for, a 200 mile fisheries limit for the United States. This group represented almost 3½ million registered sports-persons!

The program sponsored by the Staten Island Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, which absolutely must be commended for what I consider a most worthy—and successful—effort.

To repeat everything that was said that night would be pointless, but some of the information that was disseminated is extremely important, and it is necessary for you readers to be aware of what's happening so you can help obtain the 200 mile fisheries limit that we so urgently need.

There are two bills at the federal level that require your support. Pending in the Senate is the Magnuson Bill (S-961), while the companion Bill (HR-200) is tied up in committee in the House of Representatives—and that's part of the problem!

The House bill (HR-200) is stalled in the Subcommittee on Fisheries; apparently the chairman, friendly with West Coast commercial fishermen who do not want a 200 mile fisheries limit because of their own interests in South America, has put the bill in his pocket to keep it from getting out of committee and onto the floor for a vote.

To a man, the speakers stressed one single, powerful point: The passage of HR-200 and S-961 mandates the support of all fishermen in the country. There are many organizations behind these bills, but they do not have the muscle that letters have by individual voters to elected officials.

Write to your senators and congressmen; to the Subcommittee on Fisheries; to the Preseident of the United States. Tell any and all of them, in just several politely-worded sentences, your feelings about the rapacious behavior of foreign fishing fleets off our shores, and also tell them how you would like to see them vote on your behalf. That's all that's needed; but it is needed now!

There are 62 million fishermen in this country; one letter from each of them would not be too many. This law must be passed this season; if not, it may be too late to bother the next.

Incidentally, there were damn few—if any—fishermen from Long Island at this meeting, which had representation from New Jersey to Massachusetts, as well as from several national organizations. Our local sportsmen really made a great showing; I hope you enjoyed whatever else it was you were doing last Friday night. I don't mind telling you I'm really annoyed at you fellows. I don't ever want to see another letter from any one of you gung-ho sports out there, telling me what you want *The Fisherman* to do to get this 200 mile fisheries limit bill passed. You've had your chances, and you've again gotten a chance right now—you'd better take it while its available. I'm not kidding.

To end on a more philosophical note: Don Brown of ALA gave his definition of a conservationist, which I am taking the liberty of paraphrasing here:

A conservationist (ecologist) is not one who has inherited the environment from his father; he has borrowed it from his son.

Now get off your *gluteus maximi*, and all of that excess subcutaneous adipose tissue, and write!

Glenn Osgard

Why your fishing line should glow.

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THE EARLY WORM
(Continued from page 11.)

by its attachment to the line.

In circumstances where I fish worms downstream, I will steadily release line from the reel causing the worm to be carried by the steam's natural water flow. At the end of the drift I will either bring the rod tip straight up and back (thereby causing the worm to move upstream), or I will retrieve the line by reeling. Upon completion of either of these two movements, I will allow the worm to drift back down again. This approach enables me to guide the worm through the fish-holding locations.

Should you feel a tap during the course of the worm's downstream swing, or notice a sudden halt to the drift, be prepared to gently strike. It might well be a trout. More often than not, the worm that is worked close to the bottom will become entangled in some sort of obstruction, transmitting the sensation of a striking fish. Only time and experience will enable the angler to distinguish between the strike and the hang-up.

Taking the concept of the "natural presentation" of a worm a step further brings me to the subject of weight. It is my preference to use as little weight as possible. If conditions allow, I will fish with only the weight of the hook and the worm. A worm fished in this manner will sink naturally, affected only by it's own bulk. The absence of weight on the line also reduces the risk of having the trout spit out the worm once the added resistance is felt.

Bearing in mind that we would like to keep the worm as close to the bottom as possible, it might be nesessary, depending upon stream currents, to add varying amounts of split shot. Out objective is to keep the worm both near the bottom and drifting with the current. Remember: use only that amount of weight needed to satisfy these two conditions. What you definitely don't want is an overweighted leader that will cause a worm to settle motionless on the bottom.

For those individuals whose early season trout preferences take them to lakes and ponds, the same basic concepts hold true. If and when trout are located, a free-floating worm, allowed to sink and then worked off the bottom, works well. If your patience doesn't allow you to wait out a drop over deep water, add appropriate amounts of split shot. This will only be necessary if the fish are holding in very deep water.

I have found that early season pond trout will be concentrated in the shallow coves that have been warmed by the sun. In these areas looking for food, the trout will readily take a properly presented worm.

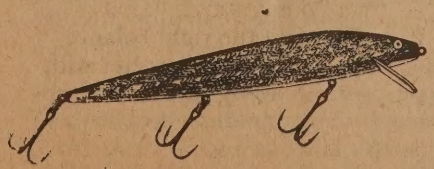
As far as rigging the worm bait, I utilize two methods. If the worm is to be fished free-floating, I will tie a size 8 or 10 hook directly to the monofilament. If conditions force me to use a bit of additional weight, I will prepare an 18-inch leader of 2-or 3-pound test to which I will attach, at opposite ends, a hook and a swivel. The initial split shot will be placed eight to ten inches above the hook, with subsequent weights placed at intervals of a few inches. Whether the worm is fished with or without weight, I like to hook the bait through the collar. A worm hooked in this manner has a tendency to remain livelier longer.

Though many fresh water anglers look down their noses at the lowly worm, many trout, especially the large ones, follow their noses to the worm. With the season quickly coming upon us, make it a point to give the worm a try. You just might be able to tempt that big old trout that continually refuses your artificial offerings.

SPRING FITTING-OUT
(Continued from page 10.)

are in order. Check the wheel (prop) for nicks and bent blades (recondition if necessary), the shaft for whip (out of true), the motor for tune-up, and electronics for any signs of internal corrosion. The rudder should be examined for electrolysis (the electrical erosion of one of two dissimilar metals in proximity in salt water—an iron rudder will be eaten away by a bronze propeller if not protected with a zinc plate), the battery or batteries fully charged and the compass checked for error. All ground plates, electrical connections, sudbury switches etc. must be checked for tightness, running light bulbs functioning, and safety equipment such as life jackets, flares etc. in good condition.

When all the work is done and the boat at rest in her slip, ready to put out to sea, you can sit back a moment in satisfaction; you've earned it!



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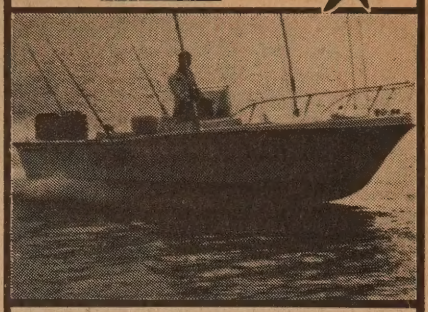

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Surf Side

with Doc Muller

Flounders, Part I: Go East, Surf Fisherman, Go East

When I was a boy, our family would take frequent trips to the eastern end of Long Island. In those days there were few residents and even fewer tourists. In fact, the farmers out east spoke with an inflection that resembled a New Englander's speech patterns more closely than that of a New Yorker. The place was a paradise to a ten year-old boy like myself, and it was in eastern waters that I caught my first flounder in the surf. Much of the quaintness of the east end has disappeared, but the flounders return every year in the spring to satisfy a winter-weary surf nut.

It was on one early spring afternoon that I overheard my father and his friend outline plans for an attempt at some fat surf flatties. As I pondered my limited knowledge of flounder habits, I questioned the sanity of the trip. How can you feel the feeble sucking of a flounder under surf conditions?

we headed for an inlet where the current was very strong. I couldn't imagine that a flounder could hold his own in the swirling current. I must have been a die-hard and a hard-head even as a kid, because I baited up and tossed the baited hooks into the tumult. Once the rig settled on the bottom, it took about thirty seconds to convert a non-believer into a believer. I hadn't even settled. down and taken up the slack when I felt a tug. In a brief instant I was more convinced than ever that this outing was fool-hardy.

"Dad! The tide is pulling my bait out to sea!"

He was a few hundred feet away and he couldn't hear me. It didn't matter, I knew what to do. But instinct is too deeply embedded, I guess, so I struck against the tide anyway. What's this? "It's wiggling! It's pulling!"

I looked around and my father and his friend were also into fish. At my age I didn't understand how a current can multiply the pulling power of a fish, so when the 10-foot surf stick bent sharply under the strain, my heart swelled, the adrenalin flowed, the muscles tensed, and I leaned into that fish.

Maybe I'm a little freaky, but I love flounder fishing and catching flounder in the surf is that much better. I love to see the flounder come gliding into the shallows resisting to the end, its body curved in rigid rebellion. Maybe what I really see are golden fillets steaming next to the cold tartar sauce, guarded by a tall, cold glass of beer.

There are ample locations where surf fishermen can catch flounders, from City Island to Orient and from Breezy Point to Montauk. But if the angler is interested in large flounders—fish that can push close to four pounds and which are rarely under a pound—go east!

Even more specifically, fish Long Island Sound from the Mattituck beaches to Orient. The beaches around East Marion are especially good and you don't have to have an intimate knowledge of the area in order to be successful. You can let the party boats point the way, but more about this shortly.

The east end Sound beaches are usually accessible to beach fishermen in the early spring, even if the angler is not a resident. You don't need a map and you needn't bother about directions. Once you have entered the town of Mattituck via route 25, go north until you hit route 25A. The road winds around most of the east end towns and, after you pass Southold and Greenport, it comes very close to the water and parallels the beach for many miles. Thus, most of the beaches appear on your left as you drive east, and all offer excellent flounder opportunities.

You see, the glaciers in this area about 10,000 years ago did us a couple of big favors. They scooped up tons of sand and gravel from one spot and dropped the stuff somewhere else. The glaciers also unloaded large boulders that stabilized the bottom contours into holes, ridges, bars, drop offs, and mud flats after the ice departed. Mussels teem on the gravel bars and worms are abundant in the mud. To a flounder these conditions are Mecca!

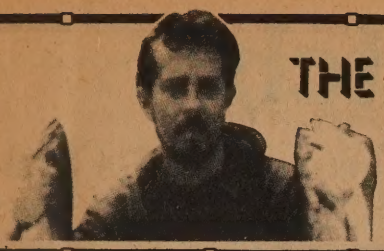
I mentioned previously that the fishermen does not need an intimate knowledge of these beaches in order to be successful. Many Greenport party boats fish close to these beaches. From many years of diligent hunting and experience the skippers know every bar and hole: They know when each spot turns hot and cold, too. Unfortunately, some of the best spots are too far off the beach for the shore caster to reach, yet there is an equal number within casting range. Find the party boats and pinpoint their locations.

Two pieces of data are needed. The position relative to the east-west directions and an estimate of their distance off the beach. Most of the close-in spots are not immediately off the swimming beach; they are off to the sides where the boulders stand out like sentinels against the sky. The deeper spots can sometimes be reached at low tide, but since the most productive hours are during the incoming tide, the surfmen will not get more than an hour of fishing time before the rapidly rising tide forces him back up the beach.

A surf fishermen can score well if he tries to fish the close-in spots during the last three hours of the incoming tide. Occasionally the flatties will continue to bite well into the first few hours of the outgoing tide, but I definitely prefer the incoming water. These east end fish are generally aggressive and the "strike" is definitive!

If you're one of those proud ones, you can find the fish on your own and not bother with the party boats. The bottom is visible at low tide in the Sound, since the tide may drop as much as nine feet. So the enterprising fishermen can search out the holes and bars, make mental notes on ranges and estimate the high tide depth, then return to the spot with the last of the incoming tide.

April is the best month for this fishing. In May the fish are smaller; blackfish and an occasional bass will spice up the day's fishing. Although the Sound side of the North Fork will produce fish to four pounds, don't overlook the Gardiner's Bay side, either. The waters adjacent to Long Beach State Park near Orient Point produces flounder in the 1- to 2-pound range, and frequently these fish will still be obliging us into the middle of May.



THE BOTTOM LINE

with Scott Simons

Dusting off the Tackle Box

Well, it's that time of year again—the start of a new fishing season. The flounders are out of the mud and the first weakfish will probably be caught in little more than a month. Now is the time to dig those cruddy rods and reels out of the closet they were thrown in after the last fishing trip. Give them a good cleaning and repair job. Dust off the old tackle box, open it...and eat your heart out wondering where all that tackle you bought last year went to!

The first order of business is to empty the box and make an inventory of the contents. Old, rusty rigs should be thrown away after clipping off any salvagable snaps and swivels. Plugs and tins can be cleaned and retouched with a little paint. Replace old treble hooks with new ones, but make certain they are the same size. Treble hooks larger or smaller than the originals can change the action of a plug—often for the worse.

After making a complete inventory, see what items you are out of or low on that you will need for the season. Make a list of everything you could possibly use, as shown on the sample list. Leave three blank spaces next to each item for prices.

If you can, shop around. Prices often vary greatly from store to store, so visit several and write down the prices they each get for every item. By comparing prices like this you'll find that store A will have a certain lure for $1.50 and store B will have the same one for $2.00. But on another item, store B may be cheaper than A and store C cheaper than both. Considerable savings may be made by comparison shopping and making your purchases in two or more tackle outlets.

I can't tell you where to go to buy specific items, but I can suggest that our advertisers are reputable dealers who have nothing to gain and everything to lose if they can't provide you with what you need.

One very important item to remember: when you buy tackle of any kind, stick to those brands that are knwon to be reliable and not of junk caliber. I can't imagine anyone unhappier than a fisherman having a cheap piece of equipment fail at the moment of truth with a good fish. "Unhappier" is probably not the right word, if the fishermen I know are like the ones you know!

Big problem deciding exactly what you may need to fish the way you do? Answer: stick with a local tackle dealer who has the knowledge you may lack. Running a tackle shop is a tough way to make a living, and the shop owner's best advertising is by word of mouth—an unscrupulous dealer who takes advantage of uninformed customers won't stay in business very long.

Why are you buying a new rod and reel now anyway? If you had shopped for such high-ticketed items last fall when close-out sales were going on you may have gotten the same outfit for 20 to 40 percent less. Very few have sales on fishing tackle in the spring when demand is at a peak. Why should they?

If it is financially possible, purchase enough terminal tackle to last the season. Many stores receive a big shipment of goods in the spring, and when a item is sold out it isn't restocked until the following year. Try purchasing a particular size of barrel swivels in August and more than likely you'll have to settle for something you didn't want—if even that is available.

As I have mentioned many times before in this column, considerable money may be saved by tying your own hooks and bottom rigs, rather than purchasing complete, pre-tied rigs. All that is needed is leader material, hooks, swivels and a little practice to make your own custome-made rigs. Watch the pages of **The Long Island Fisherman** for diagrams and instructions for tying various basic bottom rigs, which can be modified to suit your own preferences.

Another area where considerable savings can be realized is sinkers, which are probably costing you more money than you imagined. If you are a typical fisherman who loses an average of three 5-ounce sinkers (which now run $.06 an ounce) per trip, and fish only on Sundays, 6 months out of the year, your bill for sinkers is $22.50 a year—almost enough to buy a new rod and reel. Add to this what your buddies are spending on sinkers, and you can see how it pays to pool resources and make your own.

Sinker molds are available at most tackle stores; a typical mold for bank sinkers that makes five assorted weights runs less then $5.00. If you're lucky, you know a printer that works with molten lead who will cast the sinkers for you. If not, solicit gas stations for old lead wheel weights that are used to balance tires. Don't worry about the steel clips on them; when melted down, the clips, being less dense than lead, will float to the top and can then be skimmed off.

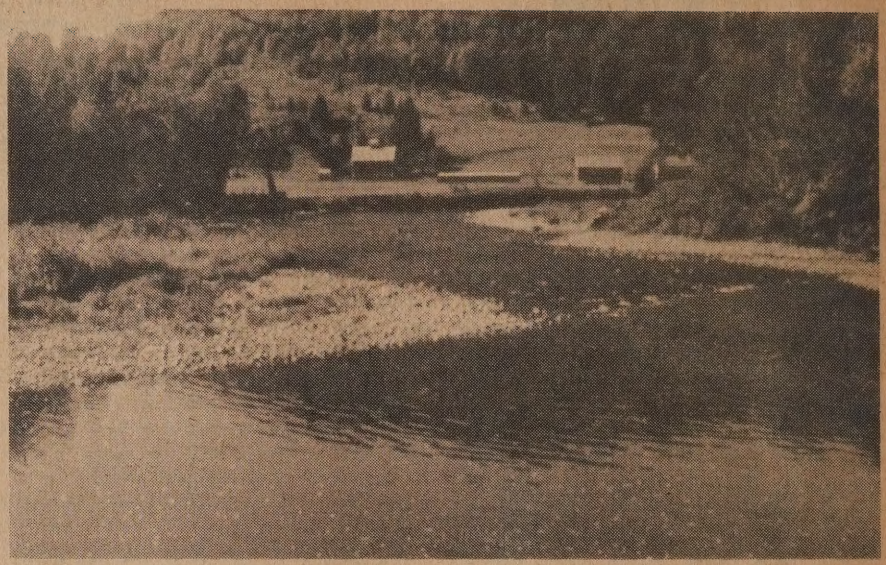
While making sinkers is easy, caution should always be observed when pouring molten lead. It burns! Be especially cautious that the mold, melting pot, lead and entire working area are COMPLETELY DRY! If even a drop of water comes in contact with the molten lead, there will be an explosion, followed by you picking thin sheets of lead off the wall, ceiling, arms and face. Use a file to take off the excess lead and smooth down the sharp edges.

SAMPLE SHOPPING LIST

ITEM	Store A	Store B	Store C
Barrel Swivels (8)			
Snap Swivels (8)			
Hook Disgorger			
Small Scale			
Gaff, 3 ft.			
Net, short, 18"			
Clam Knife			
Ferrule Cement			
Plugs (list all)			
Lures (list all)			
Hooks (list all)			

Fishing the Hatch

by Don Vetter



During a hatch, trout assume feeding positions in the mainstram of the pool (foreground). Spent spinners are washed down into the riffle below.

Although the stream in the photo is in Vermont rather than on Long Island, it is a classic example of that portion of the water most likely to produce abundant aquatic insect activity, and it has its counterpart represented in many similar stretches of Island streams; portions of the Connetquot and Carmens River, to cite two examples. While mid-to late-April see the beginning of the most intensive insect activity on Long Island, the aquatic insects here are present in the streams in various stages of development throughout the year, and are an important item in the trout's diet in any given month.

Assuming you are equipped with a balanced outfit, consisting of a 7 or 7½ foot fly rod, matching quality single action reel, 5 or 6 weight floating double taper line (DT 5 F or DT 6 F), since sinking fly lines are rarely required for even nymphs and wets on the Island's slow flowing rivers, and a selection of 9 foot leaders tapering to 4x or 5x tippets (about 2 pound test in the modern knotless leaders), you are now ready for an in-depth study of stream insect life.

With the possible exception of large, meat-eating browns whose gastronomic inclinations run to baitfish (though even they may leave their lairs to do a bit of judicious gorging when a big mayfly hatch is in full swing), aquatic insects make up the bulk of the diet of any trout who has been out of the concrete hatchery runs long enough to have learned the facts of life and survival in a stream. The angler who takes the time to learn the ins and outs of aquatic insect life has a definite edge over his more casual counterpart; he may then be numbered among that proverbial 10% of fishermen who account for 90% of the fish caught.

Though stone and caddis flies are also present in many waters, and have similar life cycles, it is the many varities of mayfly which have enthralled trout and angler alike over the years.

The life cycle of the mayfly is a fascinating subject in and of itself, and consists of three stages of development. The nymph (larva) may spend as much as a year in the stream, feeding on minute bits of algae, before rising to the surface to become an adult insect. Depending on which subspecies of mayfly (*Ephemeroptera*) the nymph belongs to, he may be a burrowing recluse in the debris of the stream's bottom, or lead quite an active, free-swimming underwater existence. When the nymph rises to the surface to metamorphose into an adult, he is known as a dun (subimago).

It is at this point, when the emerging insect is struggling to free himself from the surface film of the water, that he is most at the mercy of the hungry trout; this is the classic "hatch" eagerly awaited by the dry fly fisherman. Having escaped from the water, the mayfly flies to streamside trees to become a full adult or spinner (imago). Characterized by their transparent, glassy wings, these spinners live but a few days, mating over the riffles and depositing their eggs into the water to renew the life cycle. The dying or "spent" spinners then fall into the water to contribute still further to feeding the hungry trout.

The next essential for the serious fly fisherman to know is the principle types of mayfly in these waters, and the fly patterns which duplicate them. They are presented here in their order of emergence. The first out (usually by mid-April here) is the Quill Gordon (*Epeorus pleuralis*) which the Hare's Ear pattern imitates in the nymphal stage, the Quill Gordon dry fly for the emerging duns, and the same Quill Gordon dry with clipped hackles to duplicate the spent spinners. The Hendrickson (*Ephemerella subvaria*) is the next out on Long Island, showing in late April. The Lead-Wing Coachman is a fair choice to imitate the nymph, the Dark Hendrickson dry matches the dun and the Light Hendrickson dry with sparse hackle duplicates the spinner nicely. The March Brown (*Stenonema vicarium*) begins to hatch in earnest in early May. The Gold-Ribbed Hare's ear pattern represents the nymph, the American March Brown dry fly matches the emerging dun, and this same dry fly (with reduced hackle) may also be used to represent the spinner stage. These three forms of mayfly make up the bulk of the mayfly hatches in this area, and the angler who can duplicate them well with his artificials will take his share of trout. The times of emergence stated in the foregoing represent the earliest date at which they usually make their appearance: the hatches may last several weeks and the best (or at any rate, most reliable) action generally occurs during the month of May.

The rule with mayflies is that the dark colored flies hatch earliest and each succeeding subspecies to hatch is

lighter in color, with the Pale Evening Dun (*Ephemerella dorothea*) being the last to make its appearance on our waters, usually in early June, though some Light Cahill (*Stenonema canadensis*) activity may be evident as late as the latter part of June. Such Catskill favorites as the Green Drake or Coffin Fly, Blue Quill, Grey Fox, and Dun Variant are not to be found on the Island in numbers sufficient to be of interest to either trout or fisherman.

There are several rules to which you must adhere if you wish to take trout consistently, particularly the older, wiser fish. Rule one is to observe the naturals and match them as closely as possible for SIZE as well as PATTERN with your fly. You must know your stream to the extent that you do not waste time in casting your fly to barren water. It is easy enough to find the fish when the water is dimpled with scores of rises, as trout feed actively on emerging duns or spent spinners, but what about the far more common occurrence of subsurface feeding on nymphs with nothing to tip you off to the whereabouts of the fish?

Most streams are a series of shallow riffles, interspersed with deeper runs and pools. While the greatest aquatic insect activity is likely to occur in the shallow riffles, it is in the deep pools and runs that trout will take up their feeding stations to await the hapless insects to be washed down to them. There, in the main current, the trout can use the flowing water to their advantage. By a mere change of angle of their pectoral fins they can use the flowing water to rise effortlessly to the surface as they face the current, and take a dun with a minimum of effort. There are times when trout will venture into the shallows to take a fly, particularly in the early morning or evening, but these are exceptions rather than the rule; better to seek them in those feeding "lanes" in mid-current.

Fishing the dry fly when trout are taking emerging duns is at once the easiest and most exciting fly fishing known. Simply pick a consistently rising fish and cast upstream of him with enough slack in your line to allow a drag-free float. Don't be afraid to twitch or skitter a dry, as the naturals often struggle on the surface; this is not to be confused with line-drag which WILL put down a rising trout. You may "mend" your line, i.e. cast "S" curves into it to maintain that drag-free float.

Keep your eye on your fly and, if the

(Continued on page 13.)

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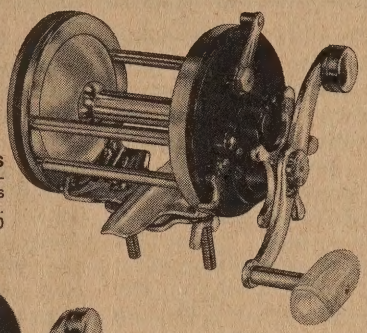

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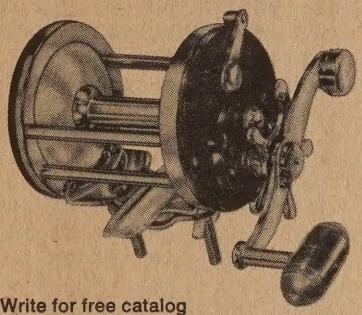

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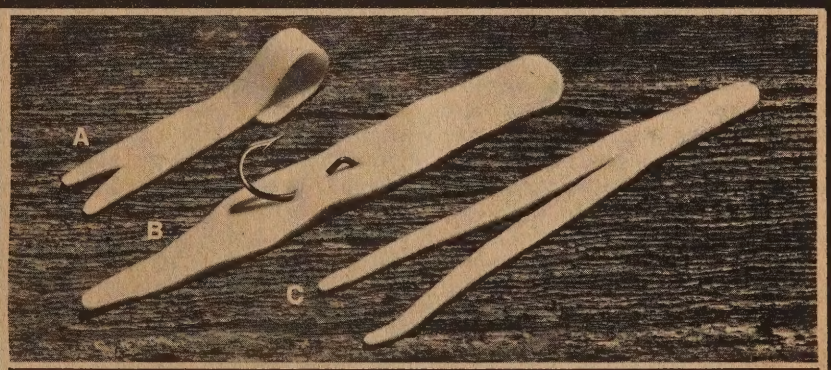

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CROSSING THE BAR *with Don Vetter*

SPRING FITTING-OUT

Aside from the obvious advantage the boat fisherman has over his shore-based brethren, there is a mystique attached to belonging to that fraternity who "go down to the sea in ships" which may be as inexplicable as it is timeless. Whether you equate it with the fact that the salt content of man's blood is almost identical to that of seawater and all life is said to have had its origin in the sea, or other esoteric reasons, the lure of blue water is not to be denied; you will find very few *former* boatmen, as the sense of freedom engendered by just being afloat in one's own craft (even if it is but a leaky little dink) casts a powerful spell.

For the owners of fiberglass craft (which constitute the vast majority of boats sold today, even in the larger sizes), spring fitting-out may be a relatively simple process which requires but little time and effort. The hull should be washed down with a fiberglass cleaner; cleansers and abrasive detergents should be avoided as the outer layer of plastic or gel may be as thin as 1/32nd of an inch and will be gradually worn away if such detergents are employed.

Scratches and chips in the hull surface should be filled in with gel-coat. Mix the gel and hardener according to the instructions and apply so that the gel on the damaged area is a bit higher than the surrounding hull surface. When the gel-coat has been allowed sufficient time to set up properly, sand it down to hull level with medium-fine reduction paper. A final smoothing with fine wet-paper should leave the spot indistinguishable from the surrounding area; sight down the hull to see how good a job you did. Handling more extensive damage to fiberglass hulls requires a bit more effort and will be discussed in depth in a separate article at a later date.

Outside of polishing up hardware and fittings, there is really little else required in the way of maintenance. If you boat rests on its trailer between trips, coat it with a reputable make of wax designed for the purpose; if it is berthed and spends the season in the water, a good anti-fouling paint designed specifically for fiberglass boats must be applied to bottom to prevent the growth of weed and marine organisms which adversely affect performance if left unchecked.

Although fiberglass may dominate the market at present (together with a smattering of "tin" craft) there are still plenty of wood boats in use; if you doubt this, just take a stroll through any one of the countless boatyards which line both shores of Long Island. Many fine boats of wooden construction are still manufactured each year, and the craftsmanship which goes into the making of them is a joy to behold in this age of mass production.

But whether you possess a 15-foot, outboard-powered craft or a 90-foot, triple-screw inboard, there is no denying that wooden boats require a considerable amount of work each season to keep them in shape. Whether you look upon these labors as an onerous chore or part and parcel of the joys (the tribulations) which boat ownership entails, is a determinant in the type of hull you will gravitate towards; fiberglass for the hurried, wood for those who savor every moment of the mariner's calling.

The first order of business, after the winter-cover has been removed, is to check the condition on seam caulking; even double-built hulls which require no caulking and plywood and lapstrake which require little if any, have deck and cabin seams which need attention. Old, deteriorated caulking should be reamed out, and while there are special tools available for the purpose, it is easy to improvise. For larger seams, an ordinary screwdriver can be heated cherry-red and bent at a 90° (right) angle, then plunged in water still hot to restore the metal's temper; a beer-can opener works well for reaming out narrower seams.

Cotton or oakum is sometimes pressed into particularly gaping seams before the compound is applied, but care must be exercised (particularly below the waterline), lest excessive caulking cause the planking to split or pull from its fastenings when the winter-dry wood swells in the water. Interlux, Woolsey or any of the reputable canned seam-compounds should be used; leave the seams slightly indented, as these compounds are elastic and will level as the wood swells. For smaller seams, the tube-packaged compounds such as Polyseam are the easiest to use. The new silicone, synthetic-rubber marine sealers are the least prone to drying out, though they are quite expensive. Be sure to check the areas around windshields, portlights and hatches, and use one of the seam compounds where indicated.

Removal of old, blistered paint may be done with a blowtorch, but this is tricky and requires experience; better to stick to scraping and/or sanding. Scraping is simple enough, though it requires elbow grease and is a must below the waterline where residual marine growth is hardened on. Most sanding (Particularly on larger craft) is best done by machine; use a belt or vibrator sander with medium-coarse reduction paper and avoid disc sanders which tend to gouge the wood. A final once-over with fine-grain paper may be in order if you want a smooth finish.

Painting is best done from the top down and a coat of marine flat primer goes on first, followed by 2 coats of gloss or semi-gloss finish. Particular care must be exercised in areas to be varnished ("brightwork" in nautical parlance); the wood must be clean, dry and free of all traces of old finish. Marine spar varnish should not be applied if the temperature is much below 60°. There are two types of anti-fouling bottom paint. The "hard" type derives from the copper sheathing employed by the late 18th century to make the hull impervious to teredos (shipworms) and retard barnacles, etc. This type of paint is quite popular today and is alleged to allow greater speed through the water. The "soft" variety anti-fouling employs poisonous chemicals to discourage marine growth - take your choice. The area at the waterline which is subject to continual wetting and drying requires a special paint known as "boot topping." When painting is done and stuffing boxes, seacocks and drains are checked for watertight integrity, the hull should be filled with water (preferably seawater, as freshwater is the chief cause of dry-rot) to allow the wood to swell, before draining and launching.

Though engine, shaft, propellor and marine electronic maintenance are subjects in themselves which will be discussed at a later date, a few words

(Continued on page 5.)

FRESHWATER FISHING
with Angelo Peluso

The Early Worm Catches the Trout

I can recall very vividly those cold April mornings, and the many unsuccessful attempts to raise a trout to a dry fly. I can also recall the time consumed experimenting with various streamers, wets and nymphs in an effort to hook-up with an occassional trout. Upon examining the trials and tribulations of spring trout fishing, it becomes apparent that the act of early season fly fishing can most assuredly be classified as a "trial", since conditions at this time of year are far from ideal.

For the purist, this is a part of an angling way of life that must be endured before further appreciation of the sport can be achieved. Not all trout fishermen are purists, however. Most are generalists who enjoy the catching of trout by utilizing a number of different methods. As an ardent fly-fisher I take great pleasure in tempting a trout to strike a dry-fly. But when situations warrant I will leave the fly rod at home and take to the field with spinning gear, and use small artificials or worms.

Yes, you read that correctly. Worms. It is a proven fact that the early season conditions of run-off and its high water effects can best be handled by worm fishing. Just as important is the fact that success ratios at this time of year are much higher for bait fishermen than they are for those who use artificials. With these two points in mind, I would like to proceed to illustrate those conditions and techniques that make spring worming such a deadly method.

The coming of spring usually brings with it water conditions that are generally detrimental to early season fishing. The waters have a tendency to be high, roily and muddy, attributable in part to the so-called spring thaw. These conditions are more prevalent on our upstate mountain streams than they are on the waters of Long Island. The Island's relatively mild winter climate is an important contributing factor to the excellent spring conditons of our trout waters.

Fishermen in this region still have to contend with the effects of cold April water. The low winter temperatures have significance, since they cause trout to function with lower metabolic rates which cause them to react in a sluggish manner. The trout will be inclined to obtain those food sources requiring the least expenditure of energy.

Let us examine, for a moment, the situation that develops on a typical mountain trout stream. The spring run-off causes the water within the stream to overflow its banks. This overflow, in turn, washes many streamside organisms into the stream itself; one such organism happens to be the lowly worm. Bear in mind that this presentation of the worm to the trout occurs as a totally natural act. Trout, during this time of year, become conditioned to the sight of this food source and readily consume it. So, I ask, what more logical fishing approach could equal that of presenting a worm to a trout already conditioned by nature to be on the lookout for this type of tasty morsel?

Well, drawing from experience and practical fishing facts, I can honestly say that this form of bait, used during the first few weeks of the trout season, is nothing short of being lethal. This has even more importance once we consider that the first of the true fly hatches doesn't begin until the latter part of April. Though considerable catches are made with streamers and wets, it is difficult to raise a trout to a dry, especially when there are no significant hatches.

For the angler wanting to make the most of his early season fishing trips, in terms of enjoyment and productivity, knowledge of worm fishing techniques can be extremely valuable. They work when other methods fail. At this point I would like to add a word of caution and advice. Don't make the mistake of being lulled into a sense of false security by thinking that the use of worms will make for "easy pickings".

Live bait isn't the key to instant fishing success. A certain degree of skill must be developed before a worm can be consistently presented naturally to trout. Just as a sloppy presentation of a dry fly will spook trout, so will the same type of presentation with a worm.

I consider the "natural offering" to be the single most important part of early season trout fishing. In terms of stream fishing, this means that the worm should be allowed to proceed through a natural drift with no line drag. When fishing upstream, follow the float of the worm with the tip of your rod. Also, reel in line as the bait approaches your position. If this is not done, the excess floating line will cause the worm to drift at a rate faster than that of the stream movement. Once again, this will detract from the natural float of the worm. The bait should be drifting freely, unhindered

(Continued on page 5.)

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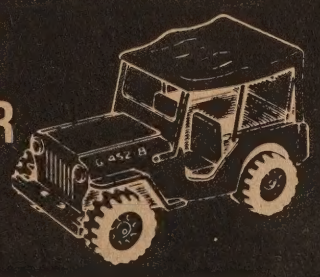

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Quebec Parks and The New York Fisherman

by David O'Connor

La Belle Province borders the northern tier of New York State. In size it is larger than Alaska. Some of the provincial parks are larger than Vermont, Connecticut, or a host of other states.

What they have to offer is vast areas of untouched fishing waters that are ripe for the picking. Some trophy sized brook trout, northern pike, walleye, and lakers come out of these waters every year...many go to New Yorkers.

To understand what you'd be getting yourself in for we need to begin at the beginning. The province can be divided into two parts, the "civilized" and heavily-peopled south, and the remote and sparsely-settled north. Some southern provincial parks like La Verendrye, north of Montreal, are very different from a northern outpost like Mistassini.

I think after I've covered a few of the differences you'll be able to see what each has to offer. Both have remote, first rate fishing areas, but each has its own flavor. I'd like to stress that these are only two of a Quebec park system that includes a dozen more.

LA VERENDRYE: It's better than 5000 square miles in area, about 173 miles from Montreal on Route 58. It has pike and walleye as the specialty with some good laker prospects. Full hotel accomodations are available at Le Domaine Lodge, and Dorval is no remote wilderness either.

I've camped in La Verendrye Park a number of times when returning to the south. The fishing is good to great, depending on your standards. The pike run up over the 10-pound class, with the walleys averaging close to two pounds. I've had some excellent days on Reservoir Cabonga when pike after pike would top out at five pounds and more. There was really no need for serious gear other than some red and white spoons with lead leaders. Traffic was heavy on the waterways at all times; my idea of "heavy traffic" with fishing is when you can see other fishermen most of the time during the day. La Verendrye gets a lot of tourists from the Montreal area and Route 58 is a major artery for the north. Even so, there are some remote areas of the park that offer total isolation. Rental boats are available in most lakes, although bringing your own is strongly suggested.

Some good catches of pike and walleyes come from Mistassini Park in northern Quebec.

This park, then, is a more urban answer to good fishing. I come from very rural Maine and don't appreciate crowds of any sort. If you like a vacation surrounded by lots of other campers, fishermen and tourists I believe you'd like La Verendrye. The fishing is better than passable.

MISTASSINI PARK: Remote by any sense of the word. Only dirt roads for a hundred to three hundred miles, depending on whether you come through Quebec City or Montreal. They are good roads, but still dirt. Any normal car can easily traverse them, although not at sixty miles per hour. The reward is superb fishing and total aloneness—something that is hard to come by in this modern world. The park lies about 447 miles north of Montreal. It's in an area where the tree line begins to approach the Canadian artic. You're close to caribou country and the jump-off points to the Eskimo. Mistassini is Cree Indian country by all natural accounts, and the signs of their trades are evident everywhere. The last town is Chibougamau, a center of mining and supplies. The last 100 miles is not inhabitated. It's strictly cul de sac at Lac Albanal.

There are two major spots for the fisherman. Lac Mistassini is almost 160 miles long and is full of lake trout, pike, walleye and brook trout. The world famous Broadback River has its headquarters here. These are not the waters to bring a small rubber raft to go fishing on. I like at least a sixteen-foot boat and 25 horse outboard. You'll see some very big boats on this inland ocean. Lac Albanal is a mere sixty-one miles long. It has the same species of fish. Take your choice; they are both fantastic waters. I like Lac Albanal because it has lots of memories from past trips. Either lake will do.

Mistassini Park has a more interesting pull for me. Where La Verendrye has an urban factor, the Crees of Mistassini are very much the outdoorsmen. You will find that the extra mileage pays for itself the first day out. Other New Yorkers already know that because about one car in every two at Lac Mistassini is licensed in New York State.

There are some general things you ought to know about Quebec. Fishing licenses are required in the parks, as well as daily fishing stamps that are bought from the park agents at two

dollars per day. Remember, you are in a foreign country where the system works differently than most American states. French is the language, and English is spoken by the minority. Even so, you won't really have any trouble getting along. If I can go through the hand motions and have someone understand, anyone can. You also learn to get used to differences like the fact that milk comes in plastic bags—not cartons or glass bottles.

A whole variety of other things would be easy to go through, but what is the sense of taking away the fun of exploring the new territory? Each person finds something new to report on. To get information on La Verendrye Park, you can write to 653, boul. Saint-Joseph in Hull, Ontario. For the goods on Massini Park write to 748, boul. Marcotte in Dorval, Quebec. Or you can write to Bruce Bailey, Department of Tourism-Fish & Game, Complex G, in Quebec City. He will be more than happy to ship out plenty of information. Be sure to tell him that you are interested in fishing and camping, and ask what to expect.

If you plan to fish either of the parks in May or June you should make reservations early. The number of campsites on all of Lac Albanal is only forty-some odd. That means they can handle very few parties in the course of a week. Sites are five dollars per night. They generally have showers and clean toilets. A small store is provided by the agents, but don't depend on them for essentials; in the case of Lac Albanal it is one hundred miles "back to town", and that's only the one-way mileage. Tackle is the same that you would use for those species in any water. I like spinning gear and spoons for pike or walleye. Lake trout can be fished successfully early in the spring with streamer flies and later with live bait and trolling stuff.

Quebec has a lot to offer the New Yorker...lots of trophy game fish!

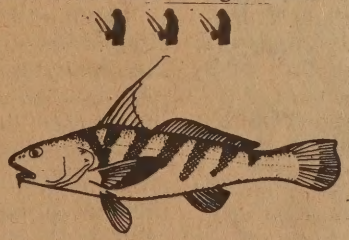
FISHING THE HATCH

(Continued from page 10.)

trout takes, strike deliberately; lightning speed is not of the essence. The same methods will work when the trout are taking spent spinners, except that your dry fly must be more sparse in hackle so it floats deeper in the surface film as do the natural spinners. Observe and be sure whether the fish are taking duns or spinners before tying on a pattern. Though the new silicone fly dressings work well and don't leave the "oil slick" of the older types, you can often get by with no dressing at all; when you have taken a trout, merely wash off the slime and false-cast the fly till it is dry.

The situation often occurs when trout are apparently rising all around you, but will take no dry fly you offer. These fish are actually "bulging" or "tailing," that is, taking nymphs just below the surface. Switch to a nymph or wet pattern and drift it to the apparent rise. When it reaches the spot, lift the rod tip to imitate an emerging nymph.

Nymph and wet fly fishing is a bit more difficult than going dry, but often more rewarding. Cast across and upstream and dead-drift the fly the length of the pool or run, keeping a close eye on the line point for the slightest pause or twitch which indicates a take. Strike quickly if you detect one. When the fly reaches the end of its drift it begins to rise to the surface; this is the time many strikes occur—watch for a flash of a trout's flank in the water. If you have had no takers, work the fly back with short strips. Any trout which take will usually hook themselves on this retrieve. Good luck & tight lines.



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Leopard of the Lake

by Matt Ahern

When Mother Nature deemed it necessary to keep her prolific finny creatures from suffering the misery of over-population, certainly halfway measures weren't employed. Witness the ravenous bluefish of our coastal waters: Slashing, tearing and ripping through densely-packed schools of forage, glutting to the fullest, the bluefish unwittingly helps keep a finely-tuned balance.

In freshwater, the counterpart to this merciless killer can be found in the pikes. While the bluefish family is believed to consist of but one member, the pike has three: the eastern chain pickerel, the northern, and that much sought-after heavyweight, the muskie. (There are two lesser pickerel, the grass and red fin, but these rarely reach 12 inches in length; seldom caught by sportsmen, they are of little interest here.)

The northern and muskie are not readily available to the average freshwater fisherman, but chain pickerel are found in all ponds and lakes throughout most northeastern states, being particularly abundant in Rhode Island, Connecticut, southern New York, Long Island and New Jersey.

His existence is primarily to ride herd on the many prolific panfish inhabiting his watery world. He does his job well, else it is certain those waters would soon contain stunted, sickly fish.

The name "leopard of the lake" is no misnomer. His elongated body and chain-like markings are ideally suited for the life he leads. Perfectly camouflaged, he lies motionless in the weed beds and lily pads, his wickedly-pointed snout facing out toward deeper water, waiting for some careless, unwary prey to pass by.

One lightning-like dash and the startled victim is seized in vise-hard jaws, held tightly by rows of needle-sharp, recurving teeth, and it's all over in a twinkling. Back he goes to his hideout, primed to repeat the performance minutes later.

The pickerel offers the fisherman an excellent opportunity to use ultra-light spinning tackle. A rod five and a half to six feet long will be found to be ideal, and if a small matching spinning reel is filled with four-pound test monofilament, pickerel fishing will be found to be tops in sport. If the fisherman likes to cast light lures, this tackle will enable him to get plenty of distance, even into the wind.

If trolling appeals to you, as it does me, the rod should be slightly heavier because of tip strain caused by the moving boat. The reel should be the same as for casting. The light line will make it necessary to adjust the drag properly. If the adjustment is not light enough, lost fish will be the result.

Pickerel can't resist that murderous appetite. It controls his every move. There is nothing which will fit into his cavernous mouth that is not considered edible to old chainsides. All of which makes it easy for the fisherman to select his tackle.

There is only one thing of importance the pickerel fisherman need remember: pickerel are always found in the shallow areas of the lake or pond, always around weed beds and lily pads in water from two to ten feet—you will find few, if any, in deep, open bottom.

Live bait, ranging from frogs to all kinds of small fish, and any activated lure—from spinner blades to plugs—will take him. Whatever invades his sanctuary is considered fair game. If it has action, that's all that is necessary.

The thorn in pickerel fishing is that he's unpredictable in his feeding habits. One day he'll take anything in the tackle box (probably the tackle box, too, if he could get it down), and the next he may be so inconspicuous the fisherman will doubt there are any pickerel left in the lake.

He's there all right, have no fear. He's just waiting for the smart fisherman with the properly presented lure to entice him into giving up his self-imposed hunger strike. This is the time for the angler to use an artificial lure, one that imparts plenty of action when slowly fished past his lair.

A good one for this is a medium-sized Dardevle in either green and white or red and white. My preference leans toward the green and white. This lure has always given me excellent results. The fisherman should experiment with his chosen lure, learn the slowest trolled speeds necessary to bring out the action, then work it slowly along the weed beds. The pickerel can't resist that tantalizing action, and he'll reward you with a smashing strike.

Should you chance upon a sunken log, you may be certain to find a pickerel in hiding. They love these shadowy places and are reluctant to seek change. Should you hook one from such a locality and lose him, he's sure to return to his protection, there to mull the error of his ways. His memory is

short, however, and if given several hours rest, or overnight, which is better, it's practically guaranteed he'll take you on once more.

Large pickerel, those weighing three pounds and more, are often found in water as shallow as two feet, hiding among weed beds and lily pads. It's from here the shore fisherman is able to get his share of pickerel. It's important to cast the lure or bait as close to these places as possible.

As good as shore fishing can be in this respect, a boat is better. The fisherman is able to get to the fish with ease. Some anglers like to row or drift along, casting into the weed beds, but they would do better by casting **parallel** to these places. As mentioned before, pickerel face into the deepest water of the lake or pond and by casting parallel the lure or bait is presented just where the fish naturally expect it to be.

The lure doesn't have to be exactly within inches of a lurking pickerel. Chainsides will strike at any distance off bottom and many times the lure will be seized as it enters the water. If the lure is trolled about a foot off bottom it will be found to be best as it will gather less weeds. Needless to say, pickerel will not strike a lure or bait festooned with debris.

Casting lures from a boat will sometimes present a challenge to the fisherman. Many times pickerel will follow the lure right to the boat, look the fisherman in the eyes, or so it will seem, and turn away with a disdainful flick of a tail. This can be extremely exasperating, as can be imagined. By accident, I found a way to cure them of this—most times.

One day on pretty Putnam County lake, I was having more than the usual amount of follow-ups. Finishing up one particular cast, I could see a good-sized pickerel giving me the business by cruising about six inches behind the lure.

I let out a heart-felt "Damn!" and savagely yanked the lure away with a snap of the rod tip. That pickerel came boiling out of the water, mouth agape, gills flared! I missed him, of course, but I discovered that by using a faster than normal retrieve whenever the fish were in that watchful mood, I managed to hook a good percentage of them.

I've caught many pickerel by casting, but I've taken many more by trolling. This, to me, is sport personified, especially when live bait is used.

For this method, I don't believe anything can be better than live minnows or live saltwater killies. Use one of these by carefully passing the hook into the mouth and out the gill cover. Remember that pickerel have row upon row of wickedly sharp teeth, so be sure to use a long-shanked hook. My choice is a 1/0 Carlisle. It's light enough not to injure the bait, yet strong enough to hold any pickerel you may encounter.

Slowly troll along the outside of the weed beds and the instant a pick-up is felt, stop the boat's power and release the bail. To strike now invariably means a lost fish. Let the fish move off with the bait, giving him time to turn it around head first, which is always done before swallowing.

When the line ceases to move away, slowly count to three, snap the bail into place and come back on the fish with a firm strike. You'll not only have him, but will have discovered immediately why the pickerel is a game fish. Most of his fight is dogged, filled with quick, powerful runs. Occasionally, one will leap from the water.

He'll fight right to boatside, and when he spots the net you should be using, he'll begin over again. Be prepared to instantly give line. This where a finely adjusted drag will pay off. No pickerel is yours until he's safely boated.

Another method to take pickerel is called "spattering," and is used mostly by shore fishermen. It isn't seen much today, but it was a big thing before the advent of light, sporty spinning tacle. It still produced plenty of fish for its advocates.

To take pickerel this way, a long, fairly heavy bamboo pole is necessary in order to reach the open spots of close-to-shore lily pads. These wide, floating pads were often called "spatter-dock" in the days of yore. Hence, the name.

To the rod was tied a heavy line, but today's soft braided nylon of about eighteen-pound test will be found excellent. Tied at the end is a plain, unsnelled 2/0 Kirby or Carlisle hook.

The best bait is the belly of a sunfish, cut so that the ventral and pectoral fins are left intact. The hook is inserted once at the widest part and left exposed. The bait is then swung out over the open areas of the lily beds and dragged through one clear section to another with a skittering action.

The pickerel will seize the bait in a rush, whereupon he is snaked out with one continuous lift of the rod. There isn't much fight involved, unless you hook a five-pounder, but it does produce fish.

These open areas in the lily beds are often inaccessible to the boat fisherman, but by using this method from shore, the fisherman can get right into the home grounds of many lunkers.

Another method is still-fishing, which can be loads of fun on lazy, warm summer days.

The best bait, of course, is good sized live minnows or killies, although any of the smaller panfish will do. Stay with the long-shanked hook, but this time pass it carefully through the skin under the dorsal fin, being sure not to nick the backbone. To do this is to insure a dead bait which, needless to say, will produce few pickerel.

Place a plastic bobber about three feet up from the hook. Cast to your chosen area and wait. Most of the time, if the fisherman has chosen his spot well, it won't be long before the bobber will go under with a rush.

Hook the fish immediately and be prepared for the possibility of lost fish if fishing close to obstructions and lily pad roots. Should this happen, don't despair. There are plenty more. Just move away and try another spot. If you return several hours later, chances are good the fish you lost will take you on again.

Long Island affords the fisherman with many opportunities to try his hand at pickerel fishing. Lake Ronkonkoma contains a good share of fairly large fish. So does the Peconic River system. Incidentally, when fishing any river with fast currents, look for the large pools off the river proper. There's where you'll find your pickerel.

Just about every lake and pond in Westchester and Putnam Counties produce large fish. One of the best is Lake Mahopac in Putnam County. The fisherman can get his limit there with little effort.

For consistently large pickerel, I don't think Otsego Lake in Cooperstown can be excelled. I have taken pickerel there to 34 inches more than once. A buddy of mine took one of 7½ pounds from this lake. When a nine-pounder is considered tops for this fish, one of this size isn't bad.

Pickerel have delicious, sweet-tasting meat, but there is one drawback: I don't know of any way to absolutely get around the many fine bones this fish contains. If you enjoy pickled fish, this is one way of doing it. It's either that, or resign yourself to the chore of picking bones. It's a fact, though, that once the bones are separated, the fisherman will find few freshwater fish to equal its taste.

Most fishermen think so highly of this gamester they are satisfied to do battle and return him to fight another day. This is fitting. What better tribute to this scrappy "leopard of the lake" than this?

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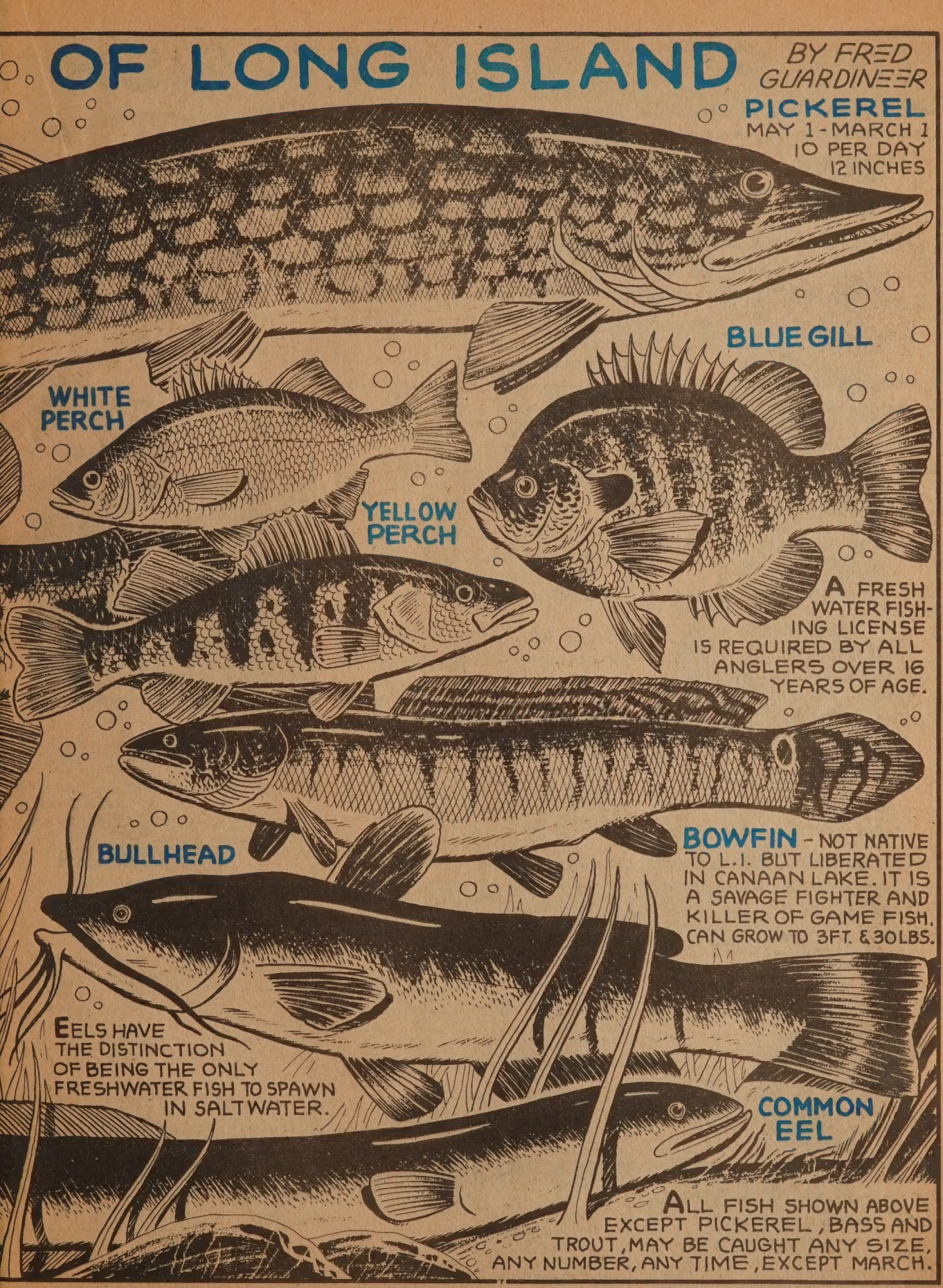
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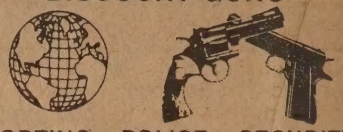

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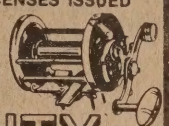

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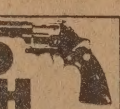

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SOUTH SHORE Fishing Report

MONTAUK

Captain Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Star** said that Saturday was very good and Sunday was fair for codfish. Fish are large, averaging 10-12 lbs. and the pool fish Saturday was over 40. Fishing is concentrated south of Block Island in 80-110 feet of water.

Captain Lester Behan of the **Peconic Queen II** reported excellent codfishing with over 850 cod and pollack taken over the weekend. John Herson of Smithtown took the pool on Saturday with a 48 lb. 6 oz. cod. He also had 6 other fish plus the $132 pool. Nick Baraos of NYC took the pool on Sunday with a 47¾ lb. cod and had 15 other fish. All aboard had fish and quite a few 10-12 lb. pollack are mixed in. Starting this Monday the Peconic Queen II will start Special Monday Trips leaving at 3 A.M. for 8 hours of fishing on Coxes Ledge.

The **Gone Fishing Marina** reports excellent flounder fishing in Montauk Lake, with fat fish averaging 1½-2 lbs. Tom Donahue took 30 fish on Saturday by himself, and most boats are averaging about 20 a man. The fish are taking mussel baits on a slow lift, which are available at Gone Fishing.

MORICHES BAY

The **Silly Lily Fishing Station** reports that 50-60 flounder a boat are being taken around buoy 36 and 39 off the Channel. Fish average ¾-1¼ lbs. and are taking both bloodworms and dyed clams. Chumming a must.

HAMPTON BAYS

Frank's Fishing Station reports very good flounder at buoy 10 and 17. Fish average ¾-1 lb. on bloodworms and chumming with mussels on any moving tide. Boats came back with full bushels last weekend.

MASTIC BEACH

Keenan's Fishing Station reported fantastic flounder fishing on Sunday, the best in 10 years. The hot spot is buoy 17 to the bridge. All fish are over 1 lb. Bloodworms, chumming with mussels a must. Some boats neared the 200 fish mark.

WEST SAYVILLE

Southbay Fishing Station said there was very good flounder fishing off Nichols Point is 5 feet of water over sandy bottom and northwest of buoy 29 and 30. Average 40 fish per boat, all baits, mussels chum a must, any moving water.

Doug of **Young's Fishing Station** in Sayville sais the wind and the weather over the weekend slowed the fishing down. Even so many catches of over 30 fish were reported from the areas of buoys 29 and 30. Dyed clams or bloodworms seem to be the best bait.

CAPTREE

The **Capt. Rod** reported very good flounder on both Saturday & Sunday despite the winds. Heckscher area best, big fish. Clams very good and worms, fish hitting through both tides.

The **Capt. Richie** called it a good weekend with 8-10 fish per man. High winds made the water murky and fishing a little spotty. Islip, Heckscher and Sayville area all producing.

Captains Neil Delaney and Walter Spicht Jr. of the **Lady Ann**, had a small charter on Sunday with just a handful of people. The catch was about 30 flounder per man, averaging ¾-1½ pounds. The fish bit best in the

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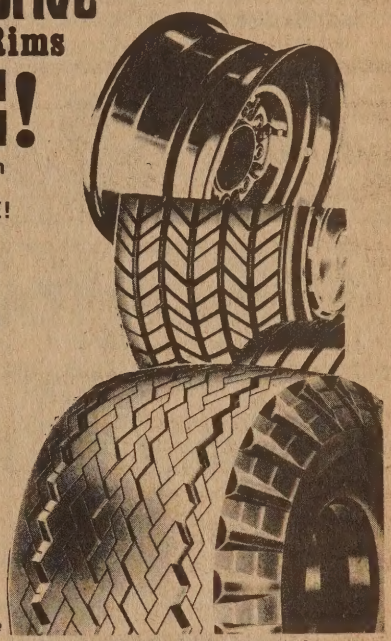

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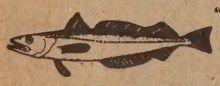

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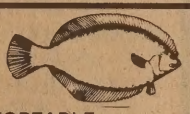
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42' DIESEL CHARTER BOAT
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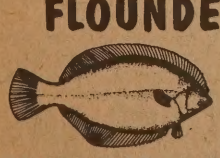
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MITCHELL'S DOCK, GREENPORT
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Tuna
Stripers
Bottom Fishing
Capt. Angie Sarlo
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Mansion Marina
Gr. Kills, Staten Is.
6 Pass. Charter Boat

afternoon when the wind dropped and the temperature rose. The bait was bloodworms.

The **Store at Oak Beach** reports Sunday pretty good flounder fishing on incoming water on the inlet side (across from The Store). Fish are ¾-1 lb. Good casting area. Aho, this past week, a couple of small weakfish near the Fire Island Lighthouse, on grass shrimp. Cod also for those wishing to venture offshore, as a couple of customers did, this past week. Your reporter used to fish very often from the beachy area directly across the road from The Store. It's a good fishing area, plenty elbow room in a relaxing environment.

LINDENHURST

Charlie's Bait & Tackle said that flounder are GREAT in the State Channel near Grass Island. Sunday, Les Barrent and Bob Dudrino, NYC policemen took 25 from one to 1¾ lbs. on bloodworms and mussel chum Also very good off Wellwood Ave. Dock, Babylon Town Dock and Captree Piers.

AMITYVILLE

George Comb's Bait & Tackle said that West Island to Squaw Island is producing big flounder ¾ to 1½ lbs. The Amity Cut to East/West Channel has above average fishing. Bloodworms and mussel baits best, chummers are getting more and bigger fish.

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FLOUNDER
7 AM DAILY

Right Side of dock • (516) 661-1652
Capt. SPEEDY HUBERT

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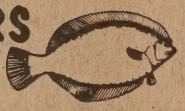
6 A M EVERY DAY



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Women & Children Accommodated
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Fast 45' Twin Screw
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FLOUNDERS
8 A.M. DAILY
HEATED CABIN — TACKLE AVAIL.
LOCATED AT LEFT SIDE OF DOCK
CAPTREE BOAT BASIN

T.V.

Instructions for Beginners
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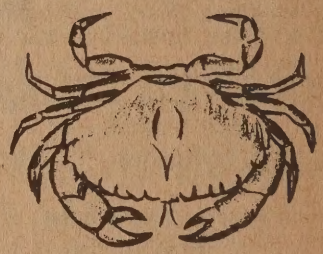
NEW JIB VI V
FLOUNDER
7 AM Daily
8 AM Daily
FLOUNDER
Fish in Calm, Sheltered Waters
INSTRUCTIONS FOR BEGINNERS



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MONSTER SHARK FISHING
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Capt. Bob Bryant (516) 587-4405 (516) 669-5230

SEAFORD

Capt. Eddies Fishing Station reports plenty of flounder, unusually large ½ to 1 pounders. Bloodworms and dyed clams on any moving tide. All boats are coming back with nice catches of good size fish.

WANTAGH

Causeway Bait & Tackle reports very good flounder ¾ lb. average at the Sore Thumb area, off park bulkheads, Jones Beach Pier and various points out of the Wantagh Road launching ramp. Bloodworms and red dyed clams are hot on any moving tide.

N.Y. BIGHT Fishing Report

FREEPORT

Captain Al said the fishing was fair over the weekend. The storm of the past week has stirred up the bay and alot of grass floats by fouling the fishing rigs. If you are diligent in keeping the grass off the hook you will pick up quite a few fish. The fishing also picks when the tide slows and stops moving the grass around.

Meanwhile out on the ocean the big ground swell on Saturday forced **Captain Richie Kessinger** of the **Starstream II** to cancel out the trip and give credit slips. On Sunday the ground swell continued and rather than try for the big blacks of the previous week Richie went off shore into the deeper water where the codfish were. The day wound up with 34 cod for 20 fares. Larry McCall of Hempstead had the biggest one at 18 lbs. which took the pool.

Allan Goldberg, Bob Heim, Matt Smith and Larry Santos all salesmen at Herman's Sporting Goods rented a Dory from **Anthony's Fishing Station** on Sunday. Fishing near the Jones Beach Pier they caught over 150 flounders, these fish were biting on worms and clams and were caught on both tides.

POINT LOOKOUT

Flounder fishing is fantastic according to **Ed's Fishing Station**. The flatties are heading on all tides at Middle-Bay Flats, North Channel and Cinder Creek. Ed's Fishing Station reports the flounders are mostly ¾ of a pound but quite a few go 1 lb. and better. Bait is worms with mussel chum.

ISLAND PARK

The **Commodore Fishing Station** reports good fishing on Saturday while Sunday's wind held down the catch. Bob Amoroso of the Upper

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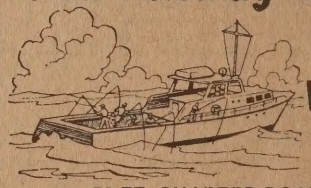

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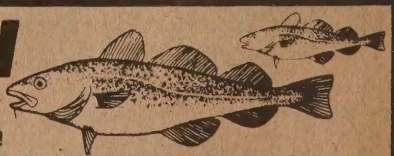

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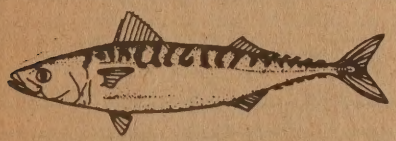

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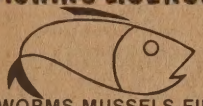
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Bronx was high hook with 28 flounders. In the east area Garret Lead and Buoy 17 are your best bets while in the west buoy 9 and the Flats at Duck Point are best. The larger fish seems to be in the deep water of the Channels.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

Typical spring whiting fishing says Capt. Fred of the **Amberjack IV**. The catch on Saturday ranged from fair to good. Sunday saw the catch drop below fair. The whiting ranged in size from 1-2 lbs.

Flounder fishing was only fair according to Capt. Dom Palermo of the open boat **Mary**. Many of these flounders were lip hooked and fell off while being hoisted aboard. The flounders do not seem to be hitting agressively right now.

Freddie at **Mike's Bait & Tackle** said the flounder fishing is good near Idlewild Airport. THe fish are in 3 to 5 feet of water and by thr Silver Hole. Sandworms and mussels are the bait. The whiting catches have been from fair to good. The fish are mainly near the B.A. bouy and the area southeast of it.

NORTH SHORE Fishing Report

NORTHPORT

Jennie Three reports a 4 man charter had 50 nice keepers out of Northport Harbor, on Saturday. The baits were bloodworms, sandworms and mussels, lots of chumming needed, on moving water.

GREENPORT

Art White's Bait Shop reports the flounder fishing is still slow. Greenport, East Marion and the South Ferry are the better spots at present using bloodworms and mussels.

The **Brand X** and the **Wilheric** go out everyday and catch a few, but no big catches as yet.

SOUTHOLD

Elisa at **Port of Eqypt Fishing Station** reports 3 men caught 78 floundes between them at the Town Creek on Saturday. Also on Saturday a Mr. Mackelberg fished the Oyster Plant east of the Greenport Jetty and picked up 11 flounders. He returned on Sunday and caught 12 more. On both days he finished up at Town Creek and caught 30 more for a total of 50 for both days. All these fish were taken on mussels. Elisa said another spot to try is the Laughing Waters.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station said there are plenty of flounders in the area particularly in the smaller bays like Conscience Bay and Setauket Bay. The fish are fat, averaging ¾ of a pound. Sandworms and chumming are best. Buoy 11 also holds fish when the weather calms down.

HUNTINGTON

Ever Ready Fleet reports good flounder fishing Saturday and Sunday. There are few throw-backs and the fish are large. An example is Jim Cunningham had a 1¾ lb. flounder on Saturday and Colby had a 1¼ lb. fish on Sunday. Captain Don Constantin will start a striper program next Saturday night.

Four Winds Tackle said the schhol bass are hitting lures and worms from Crab Meadow Beach to the Power Plant. Split tail rebels seem to be taking the most fish. Bucktails are another good bet. Nightime sees the worm fisherman getting his share. High out-going water is best.

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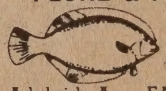

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FLOUNDER
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TIDE TABLES

	SANDY HOOK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGEPORT	
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM
3/27 THURSDAY	8:25	8:50	9:56	10:16	—	12:08	11:54	—
3/28 FRIDAY	9:12	9:37	10:45	11:05	12:26	12:57	12:15	12:43
3/29 SATURDAY	10:00	10:26	11:35	11:54	1:13	1:45	1:02	1:31
3/30 SUNDAY	10:50	11:16	—	12:26	1:59	2:32	1:49	2:21
3/31 MONDAY	11:40	—	12:47	1:21	2:45	3:25	2:40	3:12
4/1 TUESDAY	12:05	12:33	1:42	2:19	3:36	4:26	3:31	4:05
4/2 WEDNESDAY	12:59	1:28	2:42	3:22	4:41	5:40	4:26	5:03
4/3 THURSDAY	1:51	2:24	3:45	4:28	6:03	6:51	5:27	6:04

on SANDY HOOK

SHINNECOCK INLET	−0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	−0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Potunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	−0 38
(Inlet.Breakwater & Dem. Pt.)	−0 38
Coast Guard Station	−0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville (Brown Creek)	+3 39
Heckscher State Park	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	−0 19
Loop Parkway Bridge	+0 25
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
EAST ROCKAWAY INLET	−0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	+0 00
Beach Channel (Bridge)	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26
STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
MANASQUAN	−0 12

on NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Connecticut River	+1 10
Little Gull Island (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land (Napeague)	−0 14
Fort Pond Bay	−0 29
Montauk Inlet	−0 25
Montauk Point	−1 13

on WILLETS POINT

Little Neck Bay	−0 10
Execution Light	−0 06
Manhasset Bay	−0 01
Hempstead Harbor	−0 11
City Island	−0 03
Rye Beach	−0 28

PHASES OF THE MOON

4-11	4-18	4-25	4-3
NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	Last Qtr.

on BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	−0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	−0 08
Herod Point	−0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	−0 20
Truman Beach	−0 42

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and/or minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet —0 50" is listed under "on Sandy Hook". — 0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

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Launching Ramp—Gas—Oil
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The Fisherman's Package is now in the process of being mailed out to L.I.F. subscribers, and all should receive their Package by the end of this month. Please do not call The Fisherman if you haven't received yours—it's worth waiting for! The contents of The Fisherman's Package are listed below, and if you add up the figures, a savings of $532 PLUS is possible by using all the discounts offered. To those of you who STILL don't subscribe to The Long Island Fisherman, it's not too late—we still have a few Packages left, so the next 1,000 new subscribers can still get in on this terrific value. But don't put it off—when the supply of 1,000 is exhausted, new subscribers will have to wait for the 1976 Fisherman's Package. So subscribe TODAY!

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Photo Submission Blank
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Value .....Unknown

EASY RIDER
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Value $5.00

VIKING SKIPPER
$3 coupon for discount on one trip aboard the Viking Skipper at Montauk.
Value $3.00

Seaway Communications
Save $5 with any $25 purchase or repair with this coupon.
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ANGLER II
Discount coupon for $2 off fare. Point Lookout.
Value $2.00

NAUTICAL SERVICE
Save 10% off compass adjustments & repair work.
Value .....Unknown

HERITAGE MARINE
10% discount on all O.M.C. parts & accessories and Evinrude 50:1 oil.
Value .....Unknown

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Punch ticket: 5 trips, half fare on 6th; 10 trips, free fare on 11th trip. Montauk.
Value $17.00

Seatuck Cove Fishing Sta.
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Value $5.00

SEA ISLE SPORTS
20% Cash discount card on all fishing tackle. Freeport.
Value .....Unknown

PECONIC QUEEN II
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Discount coupon for:
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$50 off any VHF Radio
$75 off any VHF Radio & antenna together
Value $165.00

AMBERJACK IV
Discount coupon saves you $2 off fare for 10 trips.
Value $20.00

FLORIDA KEYS
Save $50 off a Florida Keys vacation home with this coupon.
Value $50.00

Seaway Communications
Save $50 with any $500 purchase of marine electronics.
Value $50.00

PECONIC QUEEN II
10 trip ticket—receive free ride on your 11th trip. Montauk.
Value $17.00

SNUG HARBOR
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Value .....Unknown

MARLIN II
Save $3 off one fare with this discount coupon. Montauk.
Value $3.00

UMBRELLA RIGS
Save $1.00 off any John Sekora Umbrella Rig with this coupon.
Value $1.00